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Book Department

CALHOUN, ARTHUR W. *A Social History of the American Family*. Pp. 411. Vol. III, Since the Civil War. Cleveland: Arthur H. Clark Co., 1919.

The two preceding volumes in this series covered "The Colonial Period" and "From Independence to the Civil War." The present volume describes the influence of urban industrialism upon the family. The most striking chapters are: The White Family in the New South, The Negro Family Since Emancipation, Miscegenation, The Passing of Patriarchism and Familism, Race Sterility and Race Suicide, Divorce and The Family, and the Social Revolution. As in the preceding volumes the material consists very largely of quotations from writers who have discussed the American family of this period. Since many of these views are not based upon inductive research but represent merely the impressionistic attitude of casual observers, and especially is this true of foreign writers, one may well question whether a true picture of the family is obtained in this way. Non-critical views may be important in establishing popular opinion but are of little scientific value. One great merit of the work is that the author does not dogmatize overmuch in regard to the points presented. As the title of the work indicates it is a "Social History"—a source book of opinion concerning the family,—not a critical history. The field is now open for a series of investigations of a statistical character to prove or disprove the conclusion presented.

The author does, however, arrive at certain definite conclusions which arise out of the vast amount of material presented in the three volumes. "The family is in no sense an independent institution capable of being fashioned, sustained, or modified at will to suit the fancy. It is part and parcel of an organic civilization and must undergo such evolution as will keep it in correspondence with co-existing social institutions whose form and texture seems to depend primarily on the evolution of economic technique." "The American family in its distinctive features has been, as we saw, a product of the ascendancy of the bourgeois class, the dominance of a virgin continent, and the industrial revolution is still at work, now undermining the present social order and the end of class domination is in sight. A

new family is inevitable, a family based on the conservation and scientific administration of limited natural resources, on the social ownership of the instrumentalities of economic production, and the universal enjoyment of the fruits, and on a social democracy devoid of artificial stratification based on economic exploitation." Not all his readers will agree that the material presented warrants so bold a theory of economic determinism for its interpretation as that presented by the author. That there are strong tendencies of the sort indicated no one will deny. There are, however, psychic planes and currents, social survivals of traditions and mores, persistence of instincts and predispositions, and inherited biological tendencies that cannot be ignored; that modify the influences of economic factors. It is not with the principle but with the factors of determinism which the author proposes that we take exception.

The three volumes constitute a monumental work and every student of the family is indebted to the author for its completion.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

Philadelphia, Pa.

CANNAN, EDWIN, M.A., LL.D. *The Paper Pound of 1797-1821*. Pp. xlix, 71. London, England: P. S. King & Son, Ltd., 1919.

This report is a reprint of the Bullion Report ordered by the House of Commons on June 8, 1910, with an introduction by Edwin Cannan. This report discusses the cause of the high price of gold, the causes for the lower exchange rate and the relation between the exchange rate and the price of gold bullion, and the increase in the present amount of paper money. The book gives a timely historical background to problems very similar to those of the present day.

HOPKINS, J. CASTELL, F.S.S., F.R.G.S. *The Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs*. Pp. 879. Toronto, Canada: The Canadian Review, Limited, 1919.

This is the eighteenth year for the issue of this review. The last months of the World War are covered in a running survey in the first one hundred pages of the book. The second one hundred pages are taken with a survey of the part played by the British Empire in the war, includ-

ing reference to the Sinn Feiners and Irish conditions. Then follows a discussion of the United States and the war, socialism and the labor problem, Canadians at the front, Canada's war government and national policy and the provinces of Canada in 1918. There is an index of names and also an index of events and affairs. The supplement contains the first annual report of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a record of this Empire institution in aiding in the war, the annual address and reports of the Bank of Montreal with special reference to financing the war, and important addresses and reports of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The wealth of material covered is indicated by the fact that the index of names takes ten pages and the index of affairs and events, nine pages of treble column.

WHITE, ARTHUR V. *Water Power of British Columbia*. Pp. 644. Ottawa, Canada: Commission of Conservation, 1919.

This is an inclusive factual survey of water power data throughout British Columbia. The contents include a historical survey of water legislation in British Columbia, certificates of approval—orders in Council—rules, regulations and fees granted for the development of waterway projects, the results of electrical inspection by the province of British Columbia and by the Dominion of Canada, the chief developed and undeveloped water power sites in the Dominion of Canada, a description of the water power possibilities for each of the important rivers such as Columbia River and tributaries, Fraser River and tributaries, Mackenzie River and tributaries, and stream flow and meteorological data. This is a splendid handbook of great public value.

HOLLANDER, JACOB H. *American Citizenship and Economic Welfare*. Pp. 122. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1919.

Under the caption "The Weal of Nations," the author discusses the economic conditions of the United States as a result of the great war. Evidences are adduced to show that there has been only a slight reduction in our labor force, small impairment of our natural resources and capital supply, while industrial leadership has been quickened. Instability and disorder are, therefore, psychological rather than physical. To establish public confidence and insure prosperity, we need (1) consistent government policy, (2) courageous deflation of credit, (3) retrench-

ment in public and private expenditure, and (4) arbitral adjustment of industrial disputes.

In discussing "The Laborer's Hire," it is pointed out that the difficulties in the way of securing the laborer's well-being in the present readjustment are (1) unemployment, (2) wage reduction, (3) price inflation and negatively, (4) the restricted social activities of the state. Sound principles of wage adjustment must be based on a basic wage in unskilled labor sufficient for a decent family standard of living and a differential scale for superior work and superior ability. This must be recognized either under conditions of competition or in arbitral awards.

Taxation is discussed under the title "The Sinews of Peace." Fiscal opportunism is rejected, as well as quick liquidation of the public debt by drastic taxation which would involve further credit expansion. The better remedy is "courageous but not reckless amortization by means of widely distributed, equitably imposed taxation—the incidence of which shall be upon increased production or at least current revenue and not upon working capital or bank reserves."

ARONOVICI, CAROL. *Americanization*. Pp. 48. Minneapolis: Kellar Pub. Co., 1919.

This essay is a serious effort to interpret the social and political life of America in those characteristic aspects that distinguish it from European civilization. The material is presented under the following headings: The Meaning and Function of Americanization, Racial and National Assimilation, Conservation of Racial Characters, Language, The Teaching of English, Conservation and Cross-fertilization of Cultures, Distribution of Immigrants, Environment as a Socializing Factor in Americanization, The Immigrant as a Social and Political Unit, Citizenship, The New Nationalism, and Americanization Service.

One purpose runs through the entire discussion namely, to vitalize the fundamental principles of Americanism for both the "stranger within the gates" and the complacent American, in order that out of the heterogeneous racial elements there may develop a homogeneity of ideals and purposes that will guarantee the progress and perpetuity of the greatest of democratic civilizations.

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